

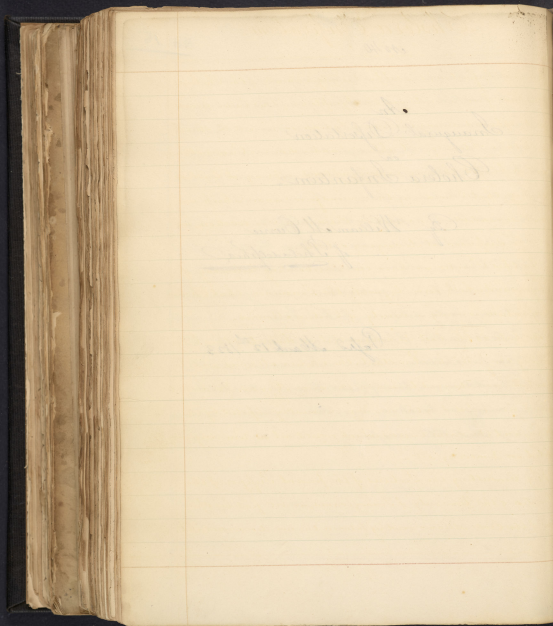
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An
Inaugural Dissertation
on
Cholera Infantum.

By William M. Currie
of Philadelphia

Passed March 12th 1823



Cholera Infantum.

Cholera Infantum it is supposed is only a variety of the Cholera Morbus; if we take into view the symptoms of this latter disease as it appeared during the time of Tydenham, we will be struck with their Identity. It appeared under similar Circumstances and displayed the very same Symptoms, differing at least so slightly, that Considering the various forms under which we meet disease, when modified by Climate or Constitutions, we will be surprised at its varying so little.

In this Country we have the Corroborating testimony of Physicians, which serves to justify the Conclusion that Cholera Infantum is merely a variety of Cholera Morbus.

As late as the last summer, in certain districts of this City among the poor; the Remittent, the Cholera Morbus, and Infantum, were observed to exist in the same Houses. The districts which were infested by the one, were invariably infested by the other; and the same Causes which would act in removing one, acted in removing all.

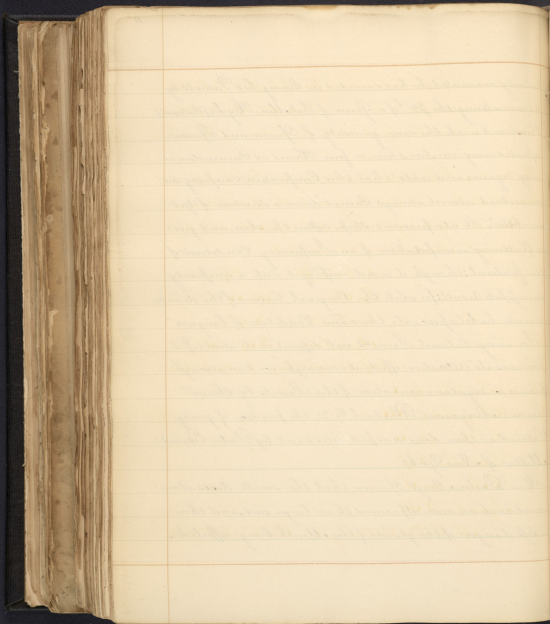
By Consulting the Lectures of the present Professor of the Practice of the University of Pennsylvania, we will find his opinion of the Close alliance existing between the two diseases stated

Chapter 1

entirely evacuated, he has succeeded in curing his Patients by administering the 12th of a Grain of Sublimed Hydr. (Calomel) Combined with the same quantity of Opium and Sweetgum repeated every one, two, three, or four Hours as Circumstances may require, and adds "that this Composition Carefully administered almost always Carried down a secretion of Yellow bile". It also procures sleep, softens the skin, and gives a flattering manifestation of an Improving Condition of the Patient; though it is not employed with a uniformly successful result: for while the Original Cause of the disease remains he relapses into the same Condition of Languor."

In using Calomel I would not depend on it alone. If it produces its alterative effects, it is enough, we can always procure a regular evacuation of the Bowels by Gum Scammony, Magnesia, Rhubarb &c. The practice of giving Calomel in these doses was first introduced by Doctor Edward Miller of New York.

It is Doctor Keight's Opinion that the small doses above mentioned are more efficacious than larger ones, and there is less danger of the glands of the Mouth being affected.



Injectiōns are proper to Relieve the painful efforts of the Rectum;
they may be used five or six times a day if Composed of thin
Mucilaginous materials; at night an addition of Laudanum
is useful -

The Cholera Infantum may terminate in Diarrhoea; the
Stomach at the same time being irritable, if irritation is
cessant. Anodyne injections are called for; the alkalies
or Relaxant Mixtures are recommended

R, Croci ppt — ʒij

ʒi Opii grs xx

Tacch alb. ʒ ij

Aqua Com ʒiij . . .

Capiat Croci larg. i Om 3^o horis

Or R, Pul Albu grs x

Mag. Calc grs xxx

ʒi Opii grs xx

Tacch alb ʒ ij

ʒi Anisi grs vi

Aqua Com ʒ viij

℞ Capiat Croci larg. i Om 3^o vel 4^o horis

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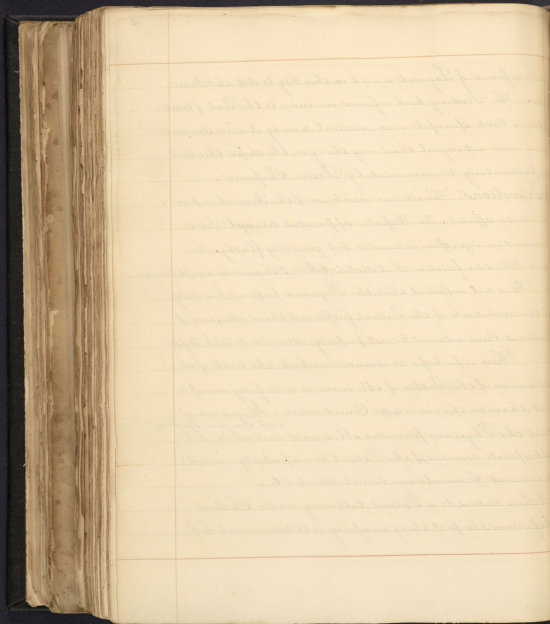
The infusion of Logwood is used in this City to stop the Drain
head. The Decoction bark infusion one ounce to the Pint of water
dose a table spoonful is an excellent Remedy it is an Aromatic
and more astringent than any thing in the shops. this last
is particularly recommended by Doctor Chapman.

Dissections. The Mucous membrane of the Stomach is par-
ticularly affected. The Hepatic apparatus deranged, Liver
increased in size, often indurated but generally flabby. The
gall Bladder filled with vitiated bile. &c. &c. Chapman's manuscript Lectures.

It is not sufficient that the Physician performs his duty,
if the attendants of the Patient fulfil not theirs also, and if
external Circumstances be not properly attended to. Aph. 8th pp.

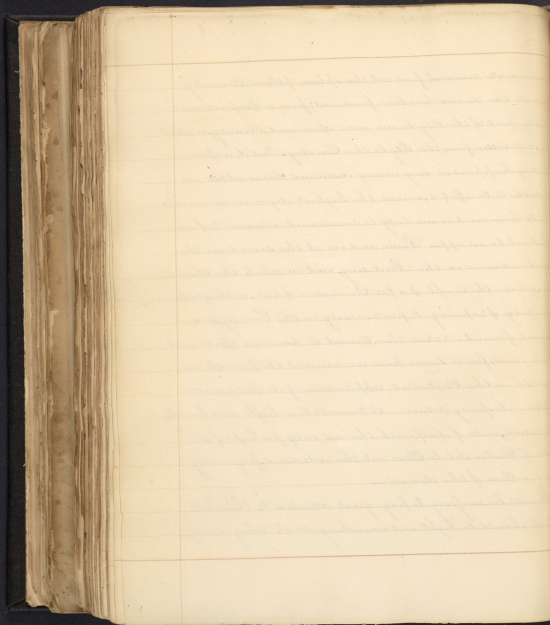
There is perhaps no disease in which the truth of this
Aphorism of the Father of Medicine is more fully exem-
plified, than in the one under Consideration. It is in vain
that the Physician prescribes Medicines and ^{such successful symptoms} ~~meds~~, with
appropriate Remedies, if the Patient be improperly nursed;
or external Circumstances be not attended to.

When called to a Patient labouring under Cholera
Infantum, the first thing necessary is to recommend his



immediate removal from out the sphere of those Causes by which the disease has been produced; from a Confined and filthy part of the City to one more open and Cleanly, or what is still better from the City to the Country. But it unfortunately happens in very many instances this is either impossible to be effected, or even the highest degree inconvenient. Still however it is our duty to recommend a removal of our Patient to an upper Room, and one at the same time the most extensive in the Building, and in which the Child may have the benefit of a free Circulation of Air, without the necessity of exposing it, particularly in the Evening, to a Current of wind. Where this Cannot be done our efforts must be in vain, for no sooner have we removed the present disease, than the Continued Application of its Causes will produce its speedy return. A removal to a high and healthy situation; with the aid only perhaps of a dose of Castor Oil to Clear out the intestines, frequently effect a Cure of the disease —

It will be necessary to pay great attention to the Diet which should be light and nourishing. Milk whey is very



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suitable as also the farinaceous substances - during
Convalescence the lightest and most grateful food should
be taken in a small quantity at a time such as Chicken
broth, Sage, Rice gruel - -

